

FERNALD CITIZENS TASK FORCE

A U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY SITE-SPECIFIC ADVISORY BOARD

Chair:

John S. Applegate

Members:

James Bierer
Marvin Clawson
Lisa Crawford
Pam Dunn
Dr. Constance Fox
Guy Guckenberger
Darryl Huff
Jerry Monahan
Tom B. Rentschler
Robert Tabor
Warren E. Strunk
Thomas Wagner
Dr. Gene Willeke

Alternates:

Russ Beckner
Jackie Embry

Ex Officio:

J. Phillip Hamric
Graham Mitchell
Jim Saric

Minutes from September 9, 1993 Orientation Meeting

- Site and perimeter tours scheduled for 6 p.m., with safety briefing set for 5:30 p.m.
 - Meeting started about 4:45 p.m., ERA Building, Classroom B
 - In attendance:
 - John Applegate
 - Jim Bierer
 - Gene Willeke
 - Pam Dunn
 - Graham Mitchell
 - Lisa Crawford
 - Bob Tabor (FATLC)
 - Bob Schwab
 - Marv Clawson
 - Randi Allen, DOE Operable Unit 5 manager
 - Jerry Zimmer (representing Jerry Monahan)
 - Tom Rentschler
 - Connie Fox
 - Daryl Huff
 - Warren Strunk
 - Members introduced themselves and explained their stake in Fernald activities and interest in serving on the task force
 - Applegate explained that the task force would be an independent body making recommendations to DOE, EPA and Ohio EPA
 - Applegate also discussed the handouts, particularly the Keystone report. Keystone addresses three issues:
 - Disseminating high-quality information promptly
 - Involving stakeholders in decision making
 - Allocating limited resources and setting priorities
- He encouraged members to read the report
- There was a brief discussion about the task force charter drafted by Dr. Eula Bingham. The items mentioned by Applegate included membership, chair and its responsibilities, importance of the

recommendations for Fernald cleanup, and the four strategic issues to be addressed by the task force.

Applegate also told task force members that they would need to work out how they will operate and get organized because those areas are not addressed in the charter

- Applegate said his role as chair would be to serve as the administrative manager for the group and to make sure that all points of view were heard. He told members he has no fixed agenda for what the task force should be doing; the group as a whole needs to work that out.
- Applegate also discussed briefly the retreat, scheduled for September 18 at the Marcum Center at Miami University
- He also asked task force members to consider when the group should meet. We may need to meet as much as every other week for about 4 hours. If a good time during the day can't be found, then the group needs to come up with alternatives
- Applegate closed the informal session about 5:15 p.m. for refreshments prior to the safety briefing and tour

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Minutes from September 18, 1993 Orientation Retreat

- **Attendance**

Members:

John Applegate
Jim Bierer
Marvin Clawson
Lisa Crawford
Pam Dunn
Constance Fox
Guy Guckenberger
Jerry Monahan
Robert Tabor
Warren E. Strunk
Thomas Wagner
Gene Willeke
Jim Saric
Graham Mitchell
J. Phillip Hamric

Presenters:

Dr. Terry Harvey, U.S. EPA
Jack Craig, DOE
Ken Morgan, DOE
Nick Kaufman, FERMCO
Dr. Joseph Prince, FERMCO

Support:

Ken Alkema, FERMCO
Jack Hoopes, FERMCO
Tim Poff, FERMCO
Sarah Snyder, FERMCO

Public:

Jan Skottegard

- **First Session: Getting Started**

Call to order

- Chair John Applegate called the retreat to order at 9:05 a.m. at Miami University's Marcum Center; led introductions of task force members and others

Introductory remarks

- Applegate discussed the relationships among DOE, U.S. EPA, Ohio EPA, and FERMCO. DOE is the owner and operator of the Fernald site; U.S. EPA Region V is the regulating agency; Ohio EPA also has regulatory oversight for aspects of the site, and FERMCO is DOE's contractor for cleaning up the site.

Representation on Task Force

- There was discussion about whether there were any stakeholder groups not represented on the Task Force. Monahan suggested that the Great Miami River represented a significant stake. Guckenberger suggested that other environmental groups might have a stake in Fernald. Other suggestions included having geologists or hydro-geologists on the Task Force.

Labor representation

- Monahan and Tabor explained the differences between their two organizations. Monahan is the secretary/treasurer of the Greater Cincinnati Building and Construction Trades Council (GCBCTC), which represents 16 crafts in construction trades. The GCBCTC builds structures, installs large equipment and extends service connections. Tabor said the Fernald Atomic Trades & Labor Council (FATLC) operate and maintains the equipment and infrastructure at the site. FATLC also is part of the AFL-CIO metal trades union.

Hanford experience

- Hamric explained that the Hanford site had two advisory groups: the Future Site Uses Working Group and one for the high-level waste program. The Future Uses group concentrated on the future uses question, while the high-level waste group focused on developing and refining public values for negotiators to use in their discussions.

- **Second Session: Legal Context**

- Overview of the decision-making process

- Graham Mitchell discussed the major laws and regulations affecting the Fernald site and how the regulators interacted.

- Decision-making at the Fernald site

- Jim Saric discussed the agreement governing cleanup at Fernald and how the task force fits into the decision-making process. He said recommendations from the Task Force are needed soon, perhaps by January 1994, in order to help guide cleanup.

- **Third Session: Physical Context and Risk Issues**

- Operational history of Fernald

- Jack Craig discussed Fernald's role in the production of nuclear weapons and the history of the site.

- Site conditions

- Nick Kaufman discussed the condition of the site, the types and volumes of wastes, and the cleanup challenge.

- Risk assessment concepts and methodology

- Terry Harvey discussed the concept of a risk assessment and the uncertainty of the science of risk assessment.

- Risk assessment at Fernald

- Joseph Prince discussed the contaminants of concern at Fernald and exposure pathways.

- **Fourth Session: Where We Go From Here**

- Organization and administrative issues

- There was discussion about membership and whether designees could attend for Task Force members. There was a consensus that membership should be personal and that clear attendance requirements should be established. This issue and others, such as attendance, will be addressed in draft ground rules for the Task Force to consider.
- Applegate suggested that the committee develop a pool of potential members to address resignations and any lack of diversity in the Task Force's composition. Guckenberger, Crawford and Tabor volunteered to serve on a membership committee.
- Task Force members also discussed whether it should hire a consultant to assist in its work. Applegate said he would present a list of possible consultants to Task Force members.
- There was discussion about how to organize thinking about the issues, and it was agreed that future use seems to be the first priority. Applegate said he would draft his thoughts on addressing the issues for the Task Force to review and discuss.
- Task Force members agreed that the second Thursday of the month would work for regular meetings. The time will be 4 to 6 p.m., and the location will be at the Meadowbrook in Ross, Ohio, which is near the site. Meetings will be limited to two hours. The first meeting of the Task Force was set for Oct. 14. An agenda and other pertinent information will be distributed.